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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/842,763	04/27/2001	Kazuya Arakawa	0033-0718P	2824

2292 7590 06/17/2005

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EXAMINER

LI, AIMEE J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2183

DATE MAILED: 06/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/842,763

Applicant(s)

ARAKAWA ET AL.

Examiner

Aimee J. Li

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 January 2005 and 21 March 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 2-8 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 10-11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 2-11 have been considered. Claim 9 has been amended as per Applicant's request.

Papers Submitted

2. It is hereby acknowledged that the following papers have been received and placed of record in the file: After Final Amendment as received on 19 January 2005 and RCE as received on 21 March 2005.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Onozaki, U.S. Patent Number 5,404,539 (herein referred to as Onozaki). Regarding claim 9, Onozaki has taught a data driven type information processing apparatus, comprising:

- a. A self-synchronous transfer control circuit (14 of Fig.4) controlling by a transfer request signal and a transfer acknowledge signal (see signals entering 10 and leaving 15 of Fig.4) transfer and operating processes (see Col.6 lines 25-33) of a data packet including at least a destination node number, a generation number, an instruction code and data (see Col. 1 lines 35-53 and Col.5 line 56 - Col.6 line 2),
- b. At least one pipeline register (61 of Fig.9) controlled by said self-synchronous transfer control circuit, for storing said data packet (see Col. 12 lines 3-43),

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- c. An input/output control circuit (15 of Fig.4) outputting said data packet from said information processing apparatus when said data packet includes a host transfer flag (see Col. 1 lines 43-53; Col. 2 lines 26-47; Col. 8 lines 12-44; and Col.14 lines 10-15),
- d. A data packet erasing circuit (13 of Fig.4) erasing a data packet stored in said at least one pipeline register and outputting other data packets from said information processing apparatus (see Col. 11 line 63 - Col. 12 line 2 and Col.12 lines 36-54).

Allowable Subject Matter

- 5. Claims 2-8 are allowed.
- 6. Claims 10-11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
- 7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:
The prior art of record has taught a data driven processor including a self-synchronous transfer control circuit, a pipeline register, an input/output control circuit and a data packet erasing circuit (see above paragraph 6). Furthermore, the prior art of record has taught the data packet erasing circuit erasing packets in accordance with a master reset signal (see Komori et al., Japanese Patent No.03029047, p. 11 lines 3-18). However, the prior art of record, or any combination of the prior art of record, has not taught circuitry for adding a host transfer flag to a packet upon reset as recited in claims 2 and 10, or to store reset information within and overwrite other packet's host transfer flags and detecting the host transfer flags in the packets as recited in claims 7 and 8.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed 19 January 2005 and 21 March 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues on pages 8-9 in essence "An apparatus that outputs a data packet when a host transfer flag is present is not shown or suggested by the prior art." This has not been found persuasive. Onozaki has several flags incorporated within its data packets which affect whether a packet is outputted or not. One example flag is the unfiring flag 107 in Figure 11. Onozaki describes in column 4, lines 37-45 that, when the unfiring flag is set, the continues to circulate inside of the information processor until the corresponding match region of memory is vacated or until a data packet pair is detected. When the unfiring flag is not set, then the packet is allowed to be outputted by the information processor.

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aimee J. Li whose telephone number is (571) 272-4169. The examiner can normally be reached on M-T 7:30am-5:00pm.

10. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eddie Chan can be reached on (571) 272-4162. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

11. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

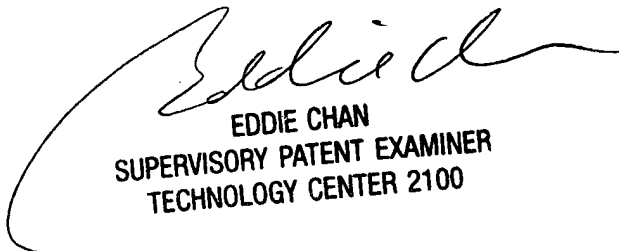
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system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AJL

Aimee J. Li

8 June 2005



EDDIE CHAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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